

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

### **LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

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12. (Canceled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

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16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (New) A whiteboard notes processing method, comprising:

scanning whiteboard notes from a dry erase surface of a whiteboard, including scanning handwritten text and a hand drawn circle created by human application of a whiteboard pen dispensing erasable ink to the dry erase surface, thereby converting the whiteboard notes into scanned notes in digital form;

detecting a circled region in the scanned notes, said circled region including said handwritten text and said hand drawn circle;

in response to detection of the circled region in the scanned notes, extracting said circled region from the scanned notes and removing the hand drawn circle from the circled region;

creating a header for the scanned notes by performing handwriting recognition on the handwritten text of the circled region, creating corresponding recognized text, and using the recognized text as the header; and

associating the header with the scanned notes in computer memory.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising displaying the header on a digital display for selection by a user.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, further comprising, in response to user selection of the header, plotting the scanned notes as machine-drawn marks to the dry erase surface of the whiteboard, thereby recreating the whiteboard notes.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein said plotting the scanned notes includes using a plotter machine applying a whiteboard pen dispensing erasable ink to the dry erase surface of the whiteboard.

35. (New) The method of claim 32, further comprising, in response to user selection of the header, sending the notes via email or fax.

36. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein said removing the hand drawn circle from the circled region comprises:

moving a scan line in a plane of the circled region containing the hand drawn circle in a first direction;

scanning the circled region in a second direction, wherein the second direction lies in a complementary fashion to the first direction in the plane of the circled region;

detecting non-background pixels within the scan line corresponding to the hand drawn circle; and

erasing the non-background pixels.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein said removing the hand drawn circle from the circled region further comprises:

detecting a first non-background pixel within the scan line, wherein the first non-background pixel corresponds to the non-background pixel first detected in a first linear scan of all pixels in the scan line;

detecting a first background pixel within the scan line, wherein the first background pixel corresponds to the background pixel first detected after detection of the first non-background pixel in the first linear scan of all pixels in the scan line;

detecting a second non-background pixel within the scan line, wherein the second non-background pixel corresponds to the non-background pixel last detected in the first linear scan of all pixels in the scan line;

detecting a second background pixel within the scan line, wherein the second background pixel corresponds to the background pixel first detected in a second linear scan of pixels in the scan line, wherein the second linear scan starts at the second non-background pixel and proceeds in a direction opposite to the first linear scan;

removing the first non-background pixel;

removing all non-background pixels between the first non-background pixel and the first background pixel;

removing the second non-background pixel; and

removing all non-background pixels between the second non-background pixel and the second background pixel.